

REMARKS

At the time the present Office Action was mailed (October 13, 2005), claims 1-22 and 28-34 were pending, with claims 4, 8, 14, 22, 30 and 33 withdrawn. In this response, claims 1, 2, 17 and 28 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1-22 and 28-34 remain pending.

In the October 13, 2005 Office Action, all of the pending claims were rejected or objected to. More specifically, the status of the application in light of this Office Action is as follows:

(A) Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-11, 13, 15-19, 21, 28, 29, 31, 32 and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,378,524 to Blood ("Blood");

(B) Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10, 12, 15, 28, 29, 31 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,692,709 to Mihora ("Mihora"); and

(C) Claim 20 was objected to, but was indicated to be allowable if rewritten to be in independent form.

The undersigned attorney wishes to thank the Examiner for engaging in a telephone interview on January 4, 2006 and a follow-up interview on January 10 to discuss the outstanding Office Action. During the telephone interviews, the undersigned attorney and the Examiner discussed pending claims 1, 17 and 28, as well as the applied references. In connection with these claims, the undersigned attorney and the Examiner also discussed amendments clarifying the characteristics of the shock control protrusion and the transonic nature of the airfoil from which it depends. The Examiner agreed that such amendments would result in the current claim rejections being withdrawn, for at least the reason that the references fail to disclose or suggest the claimed combination of features. The following remarks and the foregoing amendments reflect the foregoing agreement.

A. Response to the Section 102 Rejections on the Basis of Blood

Claims 1, 17 and 28 have been amended in the manner indicated above and agreed to by the Examiner to necessitate a withdrawal of the Section 102 rejection on the basis of Blood. Accordingly, the Section 102 rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn. Claim 2 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9-11, 13, 15 and 16 depend from claim 1. Accordingly, the Section 102 rejections of these claims should be withdrawn for the foregoing reasons and for the additional features of these dependent claims.

Claims 18, 19 and 21 all depend from claim 17. Accordingly, the Section 102 rejections of these claims should be withdrawn for the foregoing reasons and for the additional features of these dependent claims.

Claims 29, 31, 32 and 34 all depend from claim 28 and accordingly, the Section 102 rejections of these claims should be withdrawn for the foregoing reasons and for the additional features of these dependent claims.

B. Response to the Section 102 Rejection on the Basis of Mihora

As indicated above, the outstanding rejections of independent claims 1 and 28 on the basis of Mihora should be withdrawn. Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 10, 12, and 15 depend from claim 1, and claims 29, 31 and 32 depend from claim 28. Accordingly, the Section 102 rejections of these dependent claims should be withdrawn for the foregoing reasons and for the additional features of these dependent claims.

C. Response to the Objection of Claim 20

In light of the Examiner's indication that claim 17 is now allowable, the objection to claim 20, which depends from claim 17, should be withdrawn.

D. Request for Consideration of Withdrawn Claims

Claims 4, 8, 14, 22, 30 and 33 are currently withdrawn. These claims all depend from claims indicated by the Examiner to be allowable, and the corresponding independent claims are generic to these dependent claims. Accordingly, the undersigned attorney requests consideration and allowance of these withdrawn claims.

E. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0665, under Order No. 030048136US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: Jan 13, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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